

Town of Amenia
Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee
January 17, 2005

Present: Mark Doyle, Acting Chair, Vicki Doyle, Dolores Holland,
Darlene Riemer, Tony Robustelli, Joel Russell.

J. Russell opened the meeting by introducing Tom Weiner, a teacher and friend of his who has volunteered to work as one of the facilitators at the 1/22 workshop.

He then proceeded to go over the agenda for the workshop. (Copy attached.) After reading the 'Vision and Goals for the Town of Amenia' all present agreed to eliminate not just the term but also the concept of 'Performance Zoning' from the recommendations. M. Doyle added that the purpose of zoning changes is to allow flexibility based on impact - all application will be looked at based on impact criteria.

- The agenda will be handed out to participants to allow them time to go over the issues while they are waiting for the workshop to begin. J. Russell will go over the contents during his opening presentation. One questionnaire and one evaluation form are attached. One is to be filled out before the workshop to allow participants to make suggestions and voice concerns, the second one should be filled out after the conclusion of the workshop to determine whether residents feel that their issues have been addressed and solutions are in reach. The person in charge of initial sign-up should remind the participants of the importance of those questionnaires for the work CPIC is doing and point out that it will not be necessary to sign their names; this is meant to overcome any reluctance people may have towards honestly expressing their opinions and/or objections.

J. Russell stressed the point that "what 100 people say in a questionnaire is not the opinion of Amenia"- the questionnaires do not constitute or replace an official survey. (A survey should be conducted later and appropriate questionnaires should be mailed to all residents.)

- Coffee and refreshments will be available during the sign-up process.

- Name tags will be given to each person - the tags have numbers from 1 to 10 - one for each table. The discussion groups will therefore be a mixture of people who do not arrive together and may not know each other. This will ensure that different points of view will be represented at each table.

- Members of CPIC will address the residents and briefly outline the work they are doing. It should be a condensation of the 'Panel of Experts' meeting which was presented on television. H. Clark: work to date, T. Robustelli: Business, M. Doyle: Agriculture and Open Space, D. Riemer: Wastewater. D. Holland suggested that a question regarding the

TV airing should be in the questionnaire to determine how many people have seen it and whether they thought it was useful to their understanding of the issues.

- J. Russell's slide presentation will be next followed by approximately 1/2 hour for questions from the audience. He feels that introducing zoning terminology at this juncture might be confusing and will confine his remarks to more general subjects - some of which are raised in a glossary which will be handed to participants along with the agenda and questionnaires. B. Carroll and T. Shoumatoff remarked (from the audience) that, since the first Master Plan amendments in 1991 were never explained to the residents, there are suspicions and misgivings which need to be addressed. T. Robustelli stressed the importance for people to show up for meetings and become part of the process instead of just complaining about it.

- The rest of the meeting was taken up with a discussion of the time table, logistics, supplies needed and set-up . All agreed to meet at 8:00 am on 1/22.

Submitted by Monique Montaigne
January 31, 2005